

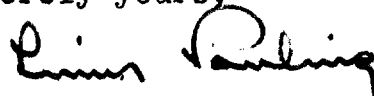
St. Louis, Missouri  
May 15, 1957

Dear Prof. *Luria*:

I have formulated the enclosed Appeal by American Scientists, with the help of some colleagues in St. Louis. I hope that you will give permission for your name to be attached to the Appeal. I should like to have about twenty signatures of leading scientists on the copies of the Appeal which are to be sent, together with an explanatory letter, (a copy of which is also enclosed) to various universities for further signatures.

If you are willing to sign, please return one copy of the Appeal to me at Pasadena by Monday, May 20. I hope that you will.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Linus Pauling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linus" and last name "Pauling" clearly distinguishable.

Linus Pauling

Enc

(Covering letter to be sent out with copies of the Appeal)

Pasadena, California

Dear Colleague:

The attached Appeal by American Scientists has been formulated with the agreement of the scientists whose names are attached, acting as individuals. We are asking all of our colleagues who agree with this Appeal to indicate their agreement by signing a copy of the statement. It is understood that all signers are acting as individuals.

It is our plan to make this statement, and the names of the signers, public on or about June 3, 1957. The announcement will be made by me in Pasadena.

We hope to obtain at least some hundreds of signatures of scientists in various fields, including those working in the area of medicine.

We urge that you ask all of your colleagues to join in this Appeal. Please return lists of the names of signers to me as soon as possible. It is important that all names be in my hands by June 1.

Sincerely yours,

Linus Pauling

AN APPEAL BY AMERICAN SCIENTISTS TO THE  
GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE OF THE WORLD

We, the American scientists whose names are signed below, urge that an international agreement to stop the testing of nuclear bombs be made now.

Each nuclear bomb test spreads an added burden of radioactive elements over every part of the world. Each added amount of radiation causes damage to the health of human beings all over the world and causes damage to the pool of human germ plasm such as to lead to an increase in the number of seriously defective children that will be born in future generations.

So long as these weapons are in the hands of only three powers an agreement for their control is feasible. If testing continues, and the possession of these weapons spreads to additional governments, the danger of outbreak of a cataclysmic nuclear war through the reckless action of some irresponsible national leader will be greatly increased.

An international agreement to stop the testing of nuclear bombs now could serve as a first step toward a more general disarmament and the ultimate effective abolition of nuclear weapons, averting the possibility of a nuclear war that would be a catastrophe to all humanity.

We have in common with our fellow men a deep concern for the welfare of all human beings. As scientists we have knowledge of the dangers involved and therefore a special responsibility to make those dangers known. We deem it imperative that immediate action be taken to effect an international agreement to stop the testing of all nuclear weapons.